



Summer 2010 greets Georgia with sun, rain, and heat!

June 2010 was a warm and wet start to the summer for most of northern and central Georgia. A dome of high pressure was a common feature over the Peach State for the month of June. This high pressure allowed cloud cover to remain at a minimum and for moist air to make its way north from the Gulf of Mexico. Almost all of the rain in north and central Georgia for June was due to showers and thunderstorms caused by diurnal heating, or the heating of the day.

Atlanta had 19 consecutive days at or above 90 degrees while the normal amount of 90-plus degree days in June is 10. The warmest days in Atlanta were June 14th and 15th which saw highs of 95 degrees. The monthly maximum temperature average was 90.5 degrees, above the normal maximum temperature average of 86.5 degrees. Atlanta saw 5.21 inches of rain in June, above the normal of 3.63 inches.

At Athens, we hit 90 degrees or higher on 20 consecutive days from June 10th to June 29th. Normally, Athens meets or exceeds 90 degrees on 11 days in June. The warmest day in Athens was 98 degrees on June 15th with monthly maximum temperature average being 91.2 degrees. Normally, the monthly June maximum temperature average at Athens is 87.2 degrees. Athens saw 4.55 inches of rain, above the normal of 3.94 inches of rain.

The story in Columbus was not too different with 23 days of 90-plus degree temperatures. Twenty-two of those 90-plus degree days were consecutive, June 8th to June 29th. Normally, Columbus has 17 days with at least 90 degrees in June. The warmest days in Columbus were June 20th and June 25th with highs of 98 degrees. The monthly maximum temperature average at Columbus was 92.5 degrees, 3 degrees warmer than the normal maximum temperature average of 89.5 degrees. Columbus saw 2.45 inches of rain, below the normal of 3.51 inches.

Our warmest climate station last month was Macon with 25 days of 90-plus degree temperatures, 23 days of which were consecutive, compared to the normal 18 days for June. The warmest day was June 15th with a high of 100 degrees. The monthly maximum temperature average was 93.2 degrees which was above the normal June maximum temperature average of 89.5 degrees. Macon saw 5.73 inches of rain, above the normal of 3.54 inches.

Looking forward to July, the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) is forecasting above normal temperatures for central Georgia and equal chances of above, near, or below normal temperatures for north Georgia (see image below). Rainfall is expected to continue in the Peach State mainly due to normal afternoon thunderstorms and the CPC is forecasting equal chances of above, below or near normal rain chances (see image below). With our typical afternoon thunderstorms, this is a good time to remember, **"When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!"**

